

ADDITIONS TO AN ANNOTATED LIST OF PENTATOMIDS (HETEROPTERA) OF NEW MEXICO.

BY HERBERT RUCKES, College of the City of New York,
New York, N. Y.

The accompanying list is an addition to a list previously published in the BULLETIN of this Society in February 1937. During the past summer the author again found opportunity to visit Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico. A good deal of collecting was done in the more southern parts of the latter two states, in localities not previously visited. During this trip most species already recorded from New Mexico were taken but in addition new records appeared; it seems advisable to publish these additions to make our knowledge of distribution more complete.

As in the previous article only species actually collected by the author are enumerated and as before new records for the State are marked with an asterisk (*). The number next to each species is that of Van Duzee's 1917 Catalogue of N. A. Hemiptera.

SUBFAMILY PENTATOMINAE.

TRIBE MECIDINI.

Mecidea longula Stål 80.

This, at one time supposedly uncommon species, may be found in abundance on native and introduced grasses, rather widespread through the state. It appears more commonly toward the south, probably because there are more irrigated and cultivated areas there. It is particularly abundant on side oat grama grass [*Bouteloua curtipendula* (Michx.) Torr.]. On this host it feeds and breeds. I have found all stages of nymphs on this grass though extensive damage to the foliage is not noticeable; where the eggs are laid is not known. Adults seldom fly, even when the grasses are roughly disturbed. The similarity of this species to certain Miridae (*Stenodema* and *Miris*) is striking. In time *M. longula* may become a pest of major proportions; at present, in certain localities where grasses have been allowed to accumulate in old tilled fields, as many as several dozen specimens may be taken in one sweep of the net. Lordsburg, Red Rock, Hidalgo Co., Las Cruces, Dona Ana Co., Sante Fe, Tesuque, Santa Fe Co. June-Sept. Elev. 3000-8000 feet.

TRIBE HALYINI.

**Brochymena sulcata* Van D. 85a.

This is a very common insect in the vicinity of Las Cruces and

in the Gila Valley. Toward the end of July (July 26-31) I found these in abundance on the trunks of honey locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos* Linn.) and red mulberry (*Morus rubra* Linn.); they feed frequently on the younger shoots of the latter. They are reported as feeding also on apple. Males and females were commonly found mating, usually on the trunks of the honey locust where the crevices in the bark afforded some protection. The ground color of the bark and body color of the bugs is much alike. Oviposition was not observed; at the conclusion of mating the couples separated and each went its respective way. Whether or not there is a prolonged interval between the copulatory act and egg laying is not known. In some species there is such an interval. Dr. J. R. Eyer of the State College of New Mexico at Messila Park tells me that this species is commonly found in their orchards and experimental plots; it is frequently found hibernating in the experimental breeding cages and at time becomes a nuisance. During my stay in this locality I took a large number of specimens and could have accumulated thousands if they were so desired. This species appears to replace the common *B. 4-pustulata* (Fab.) of the east but is readily distinguished therefrom by its much lighter color and the grooved genital segment of the male. Dona Ana Co., Hidalgo Co., Bernalillo Co., Santa Fe Co. July-August. Elev. 3000-7000 feet.

**B. tenebrosa* Walk. 87.

Strictly a Pacific Coast and southwestern species with its easternmost record from Texas. Only two specimens were taken, both from mesquite (*Prosopis velutina* Wooton). Red Rock, Hidalgo Co. July 15. Elev. about 4000 feet.

TRIBE PENTATOMINI.

**Peribalus abbreviatus* (Uhl.) 93.

Much more uncommon than its close relative *P. limbolarius* Stål, but found under similar conditions, *i.e.*, in tall grasses and weeds on moist ranges and in old cultivated farmsteads. It is easily distinguished by its somewhat larger size and its checkered dark and light abdominal edge. Santa Fe Co. Aug. 8th. Elev. 7000 feet.

**Rhytidolomia faceta* (Say) 105.

Only two specimens were taken. This species never appears to be abundant in any locality. They were taken from grasses in open range. It is known that the relatives of this species, such as *R. saucia* (Say) of the east and *R. osborni* Van D. of the west are

forms that prefer grasses that grow in salt marshes or alkali flats. The distribution of the species may depend on that factor. Red Rock, Hidalgo Co. July 15-20. Elev. about 4000 feet.

Mormidea tetra Walk. 114.

Swept from a young willow (*Salix* sp.) copse along the banks of the Gila River. The species is not uncommon but is rather local. It is easily distinguished from its relatives by its larger size and arrow-head, black spot on the ventral abdominal wall. Red Rock, Hidalgo Co., July 15th. Elev. about 4000 feet.

Euschistus impictiventris Stål 120.

Very common on alfalfa (*Medicago sativa* Linn.) and other cultivated plants. It has become a cotton pest of major proportions in certain areas. In abundance it shares first place with the common green pentatomid *Thyanta custator* (Fab.) in all cultivated lands. Hidalgo Co., Dona Ana Co., Luna Co. and northward through the Rio Grande valley to about the middle of the state; there it becomes relatively uncommon. July-August. Elev. 3000-5000 feet.

Neottiglossa sulcifrons Stål 147.

Taken in numbers from short, range grasses from Las Cruces westward through Luna Co., Hidalgo Co. to the foothills of the Santa Rita Mts. in Santa Cruz Co., Arizona. Apparently of a more southern distribution than *N. cavifrons* Stål from which it is distinguished by its smaller size and darker hue. July 15-30. Elev. 3000-5000 feet.

**Cosmopepla bimaculata* (Thom.) 149.

This common eastern species occurs much less abundantly through the southwest. In the several years collecting in that region only a few individuals have been taken. These have all come from grasses in old cultivated plots around Las Cruces and more northern Santa Fe. What restricts the abundance of certain species in areas that appear to be ideal for their occurrence and seem to duplicate, in all respects, habitats where they are commonly found is still a puzzle that entomologists have to solve. Dona Ana Co.; Santa Fe Co. July-August. Elev. 4000-7000 feet.

**Cosmopepla binotata* Dist. 152.

This, the most beautiful species of the genus, is found abundantly locally at relatively high altitudes. The series taken this season were collected in the Sandia Mountains, north of Alber-

que at an elevation between 8500 and 9000 feet. The food plant appears to be *Penstemon fendleri* Gray, as all the specimens were taken from such plants. Aug. 3rd. Bernalillo Co. Elev. 8000-9000 feet.

**Thyanta punctiventris* Van D. 164.

This easily recognized species occurs with *T. custator* (Fab.) in alfalfa fields, in waste meadows and on old stands of Swiss chard. Its spotted appearance readily distinguishes it from the more northern *T. rugulosa* (Say). It is not common although it may be occasionally so locally. July-August, Las Cruces, Dona Ana Co. Elev. about 3000-4000 feet.

Dendrocoris contaminatus Uhl. 199.

This species is frequently taken when beating Gambel's oak (*Quercus gambeli* Nutt.). I have collected it in the Sandia Mountains as well as in the canyons about Santa Fe and northward into Colorado. Sandia Mts., Bernalillo, Co., Tesuque Canyon, Santa Fe Co. Elev. 6000-8000 feet.

SUBFAMILY ASOPINAE.

**Apateticus crocatus* (Uhl) 226.

This appears to be the southwestern representative of *A. cynicus* (Say). It is found rather abundantly on Gambel's oak (*Q. gambeli* Nutt.) and often appears in company with *Dendrocoris contaminatus* Uhl.; at least I have taken it more frequently that way than by itself. Canyons about Santa Fe and in the higher parts of the Sandia Mts. in Bernalillo Co. Aug. 3-5. Elev. 6000-8000 feet.

**Podisus acutissimus* Stål 234.

The most colorful and smallest species of this genus. Uncommon and local; decidedly of more southern range. It is much more common in Arizona and over the Mexican border than it is in New Mexico. All specimens collected were taken from the tall grass *Holcus halepensis* Linn. Las Cruces, Dona Ana Co., Lordsburg and Red Rock, Hidalgo Co. Elev. about 3000-4000 feet. July-August.

Notice.—Title page and index for vol. 32 are bound in with the December number, 1937.